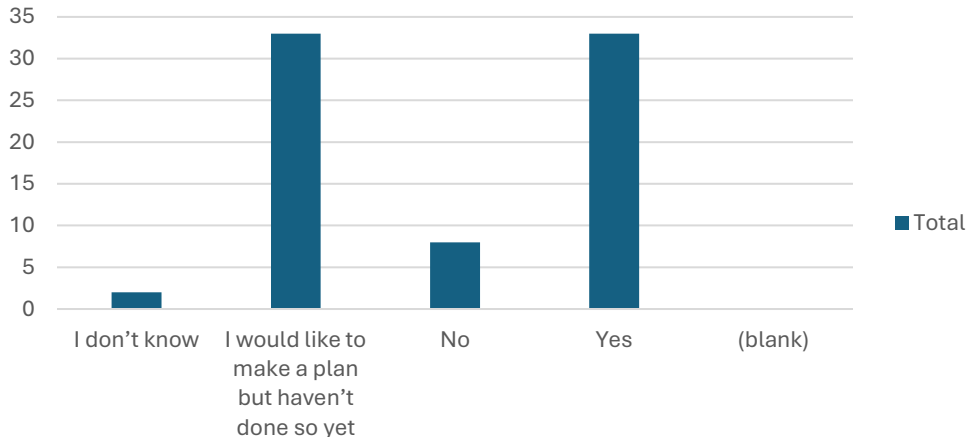
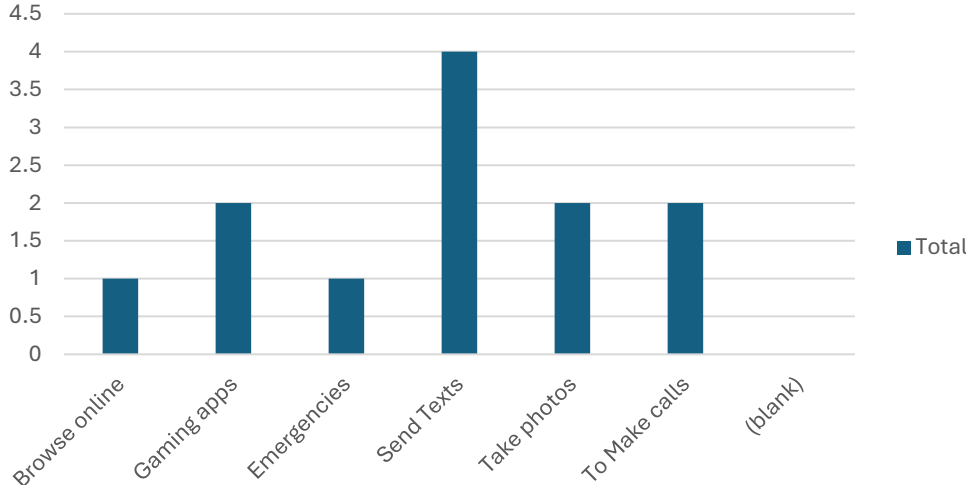
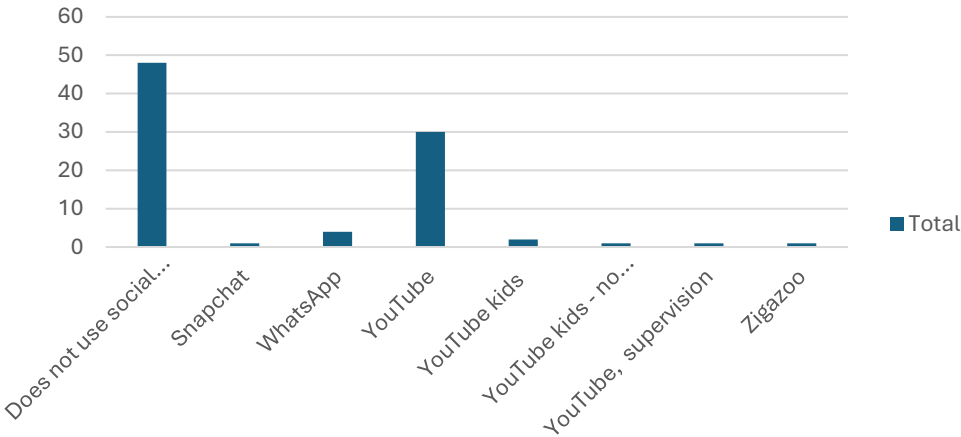
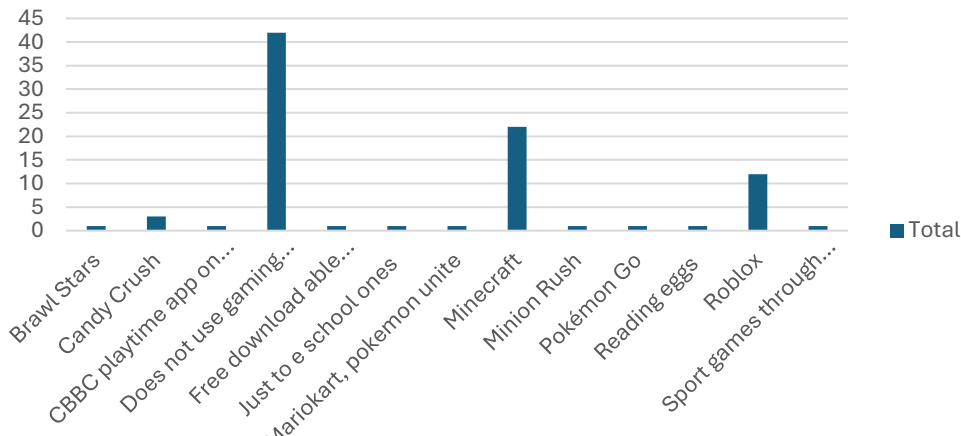


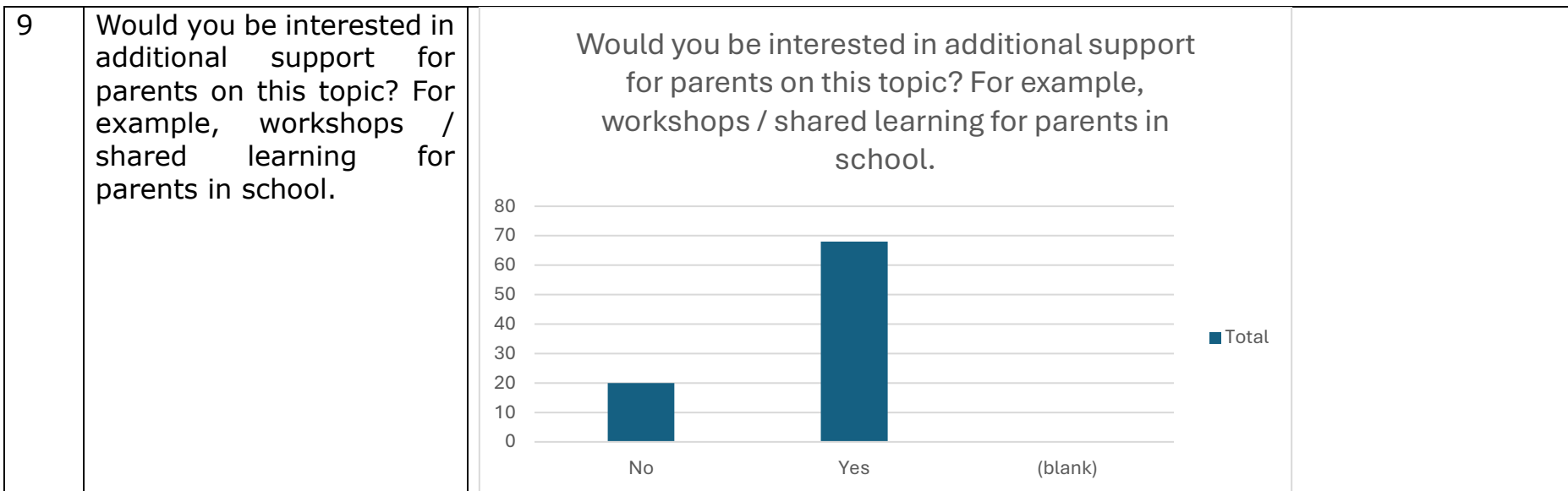
Smartphone Usage Survey – Summer 2025 – Leechpool Primary School

#	Question	Graph																		
1	What year is your child in at school?	Children in Year Groups <table><thead><tr><th>Year Group</th><th>Total</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>EYFS</td><td>11</td></tr><tr><td>Year 1</td><td>12</td></tr><tr><td>Year 2</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>Year 3</td><td>13</td></tr><tr><td>Year 4</td><td>19</td></tr><tr><td>Year 5</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>Year 6</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>(blank)</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table>	Year Group	Total	EYFS	11	Year 1	12	Year 2	9	Year 3	13	Year 4	19	Year 5	15	Year 6	9	(blank)	0
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2	Does your child have a mobile phone?	Does your child have a mobile phone? <table><thead><tr><th>Response</th><th>Total</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>No, they do not have a phone</td><td>76</td></tr><tr><td>Yes, retro</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Yes, phone with SIM</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>Yes, phone without SIM</td><td>6</td></tr></tbody></table>	Response	Total	No, they do not have a phone	76	Yes, retro	1	Yes, phone with SIM	5	Yes, phone without SIM	6								
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3	Is your child asking you to get them a mobile phone either now or in the future?	Is your child asking you to get them a mobile phone either now or in the future? A bar chart with a vertical axis from 0 to 40 in increments of 5. The horizontal axis has three categories: 'No, they are not asking for one', 'Yes, and I say that they can have one, but I am not sure when they will be allowed one', and 'Yes, and I say that they can have one, but not until a specific year/age'. The bars represent the 'Total' for each category. The first bar is at approximately 34, the second at 16, and the third at 26. <table><thead><tr><th>Response</th><th>Total</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>No, they are not asking for one</td><td>34</td></tr><tr><td>Yes, and I say that they can have one, but I am not sure when they will be allowed one</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>Yes, and I say that they can have one, but not until a specific year/age</td><td>26</td></tr></tbody></table>	Response	Total	No, they are not asking for one	34	Yes, and I say that they can have one, but I am not sure when they will be allowed one	16	Yes, and I say that they can have one, but not until a specific year/age	26																					
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Comments from families

Some children need a basic phone for safety like if they commute a long distance to school independently, but they definitely don't need them just for snapchat
It's not ok for children to have smartphones before secondary school and in my case, I'm opting for it because of keep contact with her so online access will be limited
I will allow my daughter to have a phone when she is walking herself home from school and in preparation for secondary school
Adults are key in modelling healthy habits and regulation around smartphone use as well as educating about online safety. There's lots of great resources now available. Would be very supportive of education sessions in school for parents and children
I am really against children having smartphones. I would be happy for my children to have a basic phone for calling and texting. I also think that education around phone use is really important. Highlighting the dangers of smartphones as well as banning.
"My son got his phone for his birthday which is the same year he'll be walking or riding to his secondary school unsupervised.
His phone is tracked, (he knows this) so we can see where he is (in theory) when he's not at home.
He can also call if something is wrong or something happens, and he feels unsafe.
His screen time is monitored and a limit per day is enforced. "
We use smartphones to be able to track where all members of family are which will become even more useful as my child starts secondary school and going out with friends. They are only allowed to have family member's and close friends' numbers and currently no access to social media
I 100% agree that children below the age of 15 should have smart phones and specifically social media! Phones should be allowed for basic calls and text messages only
I would welcome supporting a smart phone ban at school and home. The only issue I see is my child's fear of missing out and feeling like I'm the

only one saying no, and in reality, this would influence my decision as is also a big factor. So, to have parents who all do the same would solve this problem. I do not have such an issue with old fashioned 'brick' phones with basic functions and could be beneficial for child walking home from school on own

Need more information about alternatives, cameras, phones but without Internet, texting and GPS facilities. Knowing the difference between the different types of technology. My son has a xplora watch it is not a smart watch as does not connect to the Internet but does have text, phone, gps and camera functions, whilst at school it is in school mode, and he cannot access any of these functions except use it to tell the time.

Have seen firsthand the devastation caused by the negative side of smart phones & social media. Working as a children's nurse we see more and more children with complex mental health issues related to social media/smart phone use. It is important to protect our children and educate them on navigating this ever-changing area.

Our eldest got a Smartphone in Year 5 as he started to walk to and from school on his own and we wanted to provide him with independence, and a way to contact family and friends, we can monitor his usage via Goggle Family Link. Our Youngest is starting Reception in September and although he does use our phones and tablets under supervision, he doesn't have his own phone, we plan to get him a phone of his own by not until he is in Year 5. Personally, I would not be interested in working with Parents at Leechpool, however I think it is a good initiative and also, I think it's down to individual circumstances it shouldn't be a blanket rule for everyone.

I would get my child a phone when they are walking to and from school myself. I will follow the same rules that I used with my older child. Daily checks, which include checking at a random time in which it must be handed over instantly. Know passwords. Consequences for misuse. Taken away at night. Timings.

I can see the negative impact small screens (not exclusively phones) have on children... and that's without even opening the conversation about gaming on phones or social media use. I don't know if there is science behind it but something about the small screens seems to negatively impact behaviour on children that use them.

We don't let our child get anyone's number until y6 but can communicate through Roblox

"My eldest daughter is in Year 7 at Forest, was given a smartphone ahead of the Year 6 residential so she could listen to music and take photos on the trip, as was allowed by school. We gave her an Android phone with Google Family Link app on it and restricted it down, so it is basically a 'dumb phone' with WhatsApp, Google Maps, Spotify (though I am re-thinking this now they have video), Pinterest, her banking app and the school homework diary app. She doesn't have access to the internet on it, and unless the homework can be done via the homework diary app (I think there are some quizzes she can do), she uses her laptop for homework. She gets 2 hours of screen time on a school day and 3 hours of screen time at the weekend, once this is reached, the phone locks and she can make 'emergency' calls only. The phone is set for downtime 7-7 on a school night and 7:30pm-9am at the weekend; again, during this downtime she can make 'emergency' calls. The linked adult(s) can give 'bonus time' if desired. Individual apps can be given time limits too, so e.g. Pinterest is limited to 30 minutes a day, but Spotify and the music player app (for playing music from the memory card) are unlimited and these can still be accessed until the phone goes into downtime, even if all the screen time has been used.

Around Easter Google did an update on the app which brought in something called 'School Time'; this enables the adult(s) to set the hours the child is in school and it reduces the phones usability during this period. Google says it minimises / locks what it calls 'distracting app's'. This also disables the camera function.

I was checking her phone every night, but in the last term it has been far less frequent, which is very much my own fault, and something I need to pick up on again. What I like about WhatsApp, it shows that a message has been deleted; the standard text messaging system doesn't. On the Nokia brick phone, you can only store a limited number of messages, and they are not shown in a 'conversation' format, so reading them is very disjointed. At least with WhatsApp I can follow the conversation and query aspects of it. After an incident at Easter 2021, where my eldest used the school Google Classroom login to create accounts with various web hosting sites, and she created her own website, and wrote and published a blog (she was 8 years old), we removed the laptop from their use for 2 full years. Homework could only be done on my laptop when I was sitting with them. Both my girls know that I will do the same with phones. I am zero tolerance on this. I have told them it is about keeping them safe as they cannot unsee things, cannot forget horrible things they have read; even if it is educational, it can be inappropriate (my eldest at age 9 wanted to learn about Anne Frank,

had she been able to google this, she would have been faced with the full horror of the Holocaust.)

I teach maths to Secondary aged kids at an AP; their phone use, addiction in some cases, is the bane of my life. I am very grateful for the parents who actively navigated this well with their own kids when mine were toddlers / babies. I learnt from the things they put in place when they realised that internet use was becoming an issue with their child(ren). As adults, we have to remember it isn't phones that are the problem; it is also tablets, games consoles, computers, and smart TVs too. I teach kids who have trouble sleeping, so they watch YouTube or play on their console until the wee hours, because they are struggling to sleep. Or there are others who are involved with coding games / parts of games with other people online. Or they work collaboratively with digital artists around the world, or they just chat to their 'friends' they only know from the internet, again these things only seemingly happen in the wee hours. This is a safeguarding risk.

I am not against smartphones. They are a tool, and as such their functionality can be restricted.

Smart phones and the internet are a reality of the modern world, for better or worse! I think the focus should be on ensuring appropriate parental controls and supervision alongside education. I also think that social media websites should be held to account for content and appropriate protection of children. It's about a joint responsibility parents, companies and schools to educate and protect our children. I don't agree that a ban up to the age of 14 is the way to achieve this in fact I suspect this could be counterproductive with some children being allowed access and then others hiding access from their parents. I do however feel that phones should not be accessible to children during the school day.

I am extremely against children having mobile phones (smart ones anyway). I plan to hold out as long as possible and give my daughters basic phones that they can call from in an emergency when walking to and from school. They will not have social media until they are at least 16. I feel very strongly about this given my work background in social care!

I think children need to learn when they are relatively young, to use smart phones in a sensible way, if you wait until they are 14 to even give them a smart phone, they will not use it sensibly and it will be harder to put restrictions and boundaries on it. Smart phones aren't going away and can be useful at times (being able to see where your child is) so we need to

teach them how to use it sensibly early on not just ban them as that won't help, they will want them more.

I'd support banning them in secondary schools, def primary, and offer children more insights into what's ok and not ok with phones. They are only as safe as the child with the weakest parental supervision (!)

Very interesting and debatable topic. Research tells us that the social isolation of not having a phone can be as damaging as having one. I believe in dumb phones until they have the emotional intelligence and maturity to manage the endless interaction that comes each day with having a phone. WhatsApp groups are toxic and equally as unhealthy as social media. There should be conversations with have with our children before any child is allowed a smart phone including. Pornography, exploitation, sharing images, grooming, online privacy and have a good understanding of boundaries and rules that we can set early through gaming/ tablet use.

"We have observed children using mobile phones outside of school grounds in groups and we're concerned about what this says about how children's friendships are changing, and the sort of pressure our child will feel to use a phone when she is a little older.

Additionally, whilst the potential harms surrounding phones is a worry, it is also a nuanced issue, and not as simple as certain books and campaigns make out. Any training for parents should take the nuance into account and ensure not to overly worry them or demonise them for decisions they've made previously. "

Received phone July of Year 6 only used for family interaction and two close friends. Monitored and checked. No internet browsing just calls and texts so used as a phone but can still send and receive photos. Felt it was needed as travelling to and from places on their own or with friends, so contactable. I think moving with the times is important but there must be adult supervision/restrictions. Children do not need access to social media before teenage years.

My child is very young still but I'm really aware of how other grownups model smartphone use around him - some close family members are quite glued to their phones. I try and make a conscious effort to put my phone in another room as much as I can when home with my children.

"I'm surprised at how young children in Leechpool are that have their own phones!

I'm also shocked at how free children are to use their phones at home upstairs till late at night."

"We would like smart phones banned from schools and I would happily not get a phone for my child until 14 or even 16 and would like her peers to do the same.

Our daughter watches kids' tube and we tell her she will never get a phone if she watches too much and we tell her it's addictive. "

I'm also shocked at how free children are to use their phones at home upstairs till late at night."

Although my child does have a smartphone, he is very aware of online behaviours and personal visibility. He does not share his personal information and does not give his number to friends and isn't interested in apps or being available to his friends. He has WhatsApp although this is rarely used and is just a way for him/us to be in contact whilst he is at sporting events that we are not able to attend or family groups. He has learnt about online safety through school which is very helpful.

I feel very strongly that mobile phones should not be given to children. It's clear that it disrupts so many activities that are crucial for developing social and physical skills and emotional resilience

My youngest is starting at another school in September at the new starters parent meeting a parent spoke to all parents about a 'smart phone free charter'. I thought this was very proactive and I am so relieved that as parents we can have these discussions together, with the support of schools.

I feel it will be a fine line between wanting to keep my child safe, and to allow him to just be a child and then letting him keep up with his friends and not feeling left out. I'd like to keep him away from online gaming and social media for as long as possible.

We have installed parental controls, Safe Surf and age restriction on our son's Smartphone to lock down the download of all apps. He is also unable to download any social media apps including WhatsApp as we feel that children aren't emotionally mature enough to use these responsibly.

We intend to give our children "dumb" phones so they can call and text but not access social media.

I can only see negative effects for children having smart phones, even with restricted access. A unity of parents making it the norm to not have them feels like the best way to change this.

We would only want a mobile phone for him to walk to and from secondary school.

I think that a mobile for Year 7 children is suitable as they are becoming more independent so putting an age restriction 14 years is maybe not advisable. Maybe at year 7 but with usage restrictions.

They will have a phone the moment they walk to school alone. This will be a basic phone for phone calls and texts.

If I buy a phone to my child in Year 7 it will be without access to internet

Holding back on giving young children smartphones will be so much easier if the majority are on board. More knowledge of modern non-smart phones would help parents to provide a phone but for calls/texts only.

I think children are being given phones earlier so parents can track their whereabouts, especially if they make their own way to and from school independently. This is the only reason I would consider giving my child one, to notify me when arriving at school and home. Purely to be contactable at all times.